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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the matter of the Application of the
GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY
(U 133 W) for an order authorizing it to increase
rates for water service by \$2,812,100 or 32.61%
in 2008; by -\$178,700 or -1.51% in 2009; and
by \$109,900 or 0.92% in 2010 in its Arden
Cordova Customer Service Area.

Application 07-01-009

In the matter of the Application of the
GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY
(U 133 W) for an order authorizing it to
increase rates for water service by \$492,400
or 8.57% in 2008; by \$122,500 or 1.94% in
2009; and by \$160,000 or 2.47% in 2010 in its
Bay Point Customer Service Area.

Application 07-01-010

In the matter of the Application of the
GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY
(U 133 W) for an order authorizing it to
increase rates for water service by \$214,200
or 12.99% in 2008; by \$20,500 or 1.10% in
2009; and by \$32,800 or 1.72% in 2010 in its
Clearlake Customer Service Area.

Application 07-01-011

In the matter of the Application of the
GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY
(U 133 W) for an order authorizing it to
increase rates for water service by
\$1,107,200 or 52.69% in 2008; by \$69,900 or
2.17% in 2009; and by \$145,400 or 4.43% in
2010 in its Los Osos Customer Service Area.

Application 07-01-012

In the matter of the Application of the GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY (U 133 W) for an order authorizing it to increase rates for water service by \$1,432,900 or 43.95% in 2008; by -\$89,500 or -1.89% in 2009; and by \$33,000 or 0.71% in 2010 in its Ojai Customer Service Area.	Application 07-01-013
In the matter of the Application of the GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY (U 133 W) for an order authorizing it to increase rates for water service by \$2,937,400 or 36.15% in 2008; by \$455,100 or 4.09% in 2009; and by \$310,900 or 2.67% in 2010 in its Santa Maria Customer Service Area.	Application 07-01-014
In the matter of the Application of the GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY (U 133 W) for an order authorizing it to increase rates for water service by \$1,605,100 or 16.96% in 2008; by \$113,300 or 1.02% in 2009; and by \$222,000 or 1.97% in 2010 in its Simi Valley Customer Service Area.	Application 07-01-015

ASSIGNED COMMISSIONER AND ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S SCOPING MEMO AND RULING

1. Summary

This scoping memo consolidates the above-referenced seven general rate case (GRC) applications, determines the scope of the issues to be considered in this proceeding, and sets a procedural schedule. Golden State Water Company (Golden State) is a Class A water utility. Its GRC filings are governed by

Decision (D.) 04-06-018. Pursuant to Rule 7.3 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure,¹ this scoping memo also determines the category of the proceeding and the need for hearing.

2. Procedural Background

Golden State filed its application, with supporting testimony and workpapers on January 5, 2007. The Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA) filed a motion to accept a late-filed protest and a protest to this application on February 9, 2007.

A prehearing conferences (PHC) was noticed and held on February 26, 2007. At the PHC, the assigned Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) granted DRA's motion to late-file its protest. We confirm that ruling here. During the PHC, the ALJ proposed a procedural schedule and a schedule for public participation hearings (PPHs). A preliminary schedule was established at the PHC. Today we adopt a schedule for PPHs. This schedule is set forth below. We also adopt a procedural schedule. This schedule is set forth below. At the PHC, the ALJ consolidated these seven proceedings. We confirm that ruling here.

Lastly, the assigned ALJ requested that Golden State serve supplementary testimony on the issue of low-income rates. Golden State agreed and, subsequently served this supplementary testimony on March 9, 2007.

3. Categorization and Need for Hearings

In Resolution ALJ-176-3185 issued on January 11, 2007, this proceeding was preliminarily categorized as ratesetting, as that term is defined in Rule 1.3(e).

¹ All subsequent references to "Rules" or "Rule" are to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure unless otherwise noted.

No party has objected to the Commission's preliminary categorization or to our preliminary determination that evidentiary hearings are needed. We affirm the categorization and the need for hearings in this scoping memo. As to the issue of category only, this scoping memo is appealable under the procedures set forth in Rule 7.6.

4. Ex Parte Communications

The Commission's ex parte rules applicable to this proceeding are set forth in Rules 8.1 through 8.5. These Rules apply to all parties of record and, more broadly, to all persons with an interest in any substantive matter.

5. Scope of Proceeding

The issues for a GRC proceeding are very broad, as this proceeding involves a comprehensive review of all aspects of the company's operations, utility plant, capital structure, capital budget, customer service, and customer rates and service quality. At the PHC, the assigned ALJ expanded the scope of this proceeding to also include low-income rates. As the assigned ALJ indicated during the PHC, this issue of conservation rate design may also be addressed consistent with any final determination in Investigation 07-01-022.

6. Presiding Officer

Pursuant to Rule 13.2(c), the assigned Commissioner is Dian M. Grueneich and the assigned ALJ is Regina DeAngelis. The assigned Commissioner designates ALJ DeAngelis as the Presiding Officer in this proceeding.

7. PPH Schedule

The date, time and location for the PPHs are set forth below.

PPH SCHEDULE

April 17, 2007 7:00 p.m.	<u>PITTSBURG - A.07-01-010</u> Pittsburg City Hall Council Chambers 65 Civic Avenue Pittsburg, CA 94565
April 18, 2007 7:00 p.m.	<u>CLEARLAKE - A.07-01-011</u> Clearlake City Hall Council Chambers 14050 Olympic Drive Clearlake, CA 95422
May 8, 2007 7:00 p.m.	<u>RANCHO CORDOVA - A.07-01-009</u> Cordova Recreation & Park District – Building 1 2197 Chase Drive Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
May 9, 2007 7:00 p.m.	<u>SANTA MARIA - A.07-01-014</u> Santa Maria City Hall Council Chambers 110 East Cook Street Santa Maria, CA 93454
May 10, 2007 7:00 p.m.	<u>OJAI - A.07-01-013</u> Chaparral School Auditorium 414 East Ojai Avenue Ojai, CA 93023
May 14, 2007 7:00 p.m.	<u>LOS OSOS - A.07-01-012</u> South Bay Community Center 2180 Palisades Avenue Los Osos, CA 93412
May 17, 2007 7:00 p.m.	<u>BAY POINT - A.07-01-010</u> Ambrose Community Center – Auditorium 3105 Willow Pass Road Bay Point, CA 94565

8. Procedural Schedule

The procedural schedule for this proceeding is set forth below:

PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

May 14, 2007	DRA and Others Testimony
June 11, 2007	Rebuttal Testimony
June 19, 2007	Report to ALJ on Meet and Confer Settlement Efforts
June 25-29, 2007	Evidentiary Hearings at 10:00 a.m., Commission Courtroom, State Office Building, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco
July 23, 2007	Concurrent Opening Briefs
August 6, 2007	Concurrent Reply Briefs
August 14, 2007	Report to ALJ on Meet and Confer Settlement Efforts
August 27, 2007	Technical Conference ²
October 23, 2007	Proposed Decision
December 6, 2007	Final Decision Adopted

Pursuant to Rule 13.13(b), parties requesting final oral argument before the Commission must include that request in their opening brief. This proceeding is

² Water Division shall convene a technical conference to fully understand the models utilized by Golden State and other parties so that it is prepared to assist, as needed, with the preparation of the necessary tables for the Proposed Decision. Golden State shall, and other parties may, participate in the conference.

scheduled to be completed within 18 months of this scoping memo, as required by Section 1701.5 of the Public Utilities Code.

9. DRA's Request to Change the Location of Hearings

On February 27, 2007, DRA requested a change via electronic mail of the location of the evidentiary hearings from San Francisco to the Commission's Los Angeles offices. Golden State objected to this change on February 28, 2007. This request is denied. The evidentiary hearings will be held in San Francisco.

10. Service List

At this point in the proceeding, persons seeking party status must file a Motion for Party Status in accordance with Rule 1.4(a)(4). The official Service List for this proceeding is published on the Commission's website and will be updated throughout this proceeding. Parties are responsible for verifying that the information contained on that Service List is accurate. Parties should request corrections to the Service List by contacting the Commission's Process Office. Prior to serving any document, each party must ensure that it is using the most up-to-date Service List. The Service List on the Commission's website meets this definition. Parties must serve documents consistent with Rule 1.9 (Service) and 1.10 (Electronic Service). Under Rule 1.10, parties must provide a paper copy of all documents served by electronic mail to the assigned ALJ. To the extent possible, documents served should be transmitted before 5:00 p.m. on the date scheduled for service to occur. Rule 1.10 governs the rules for service of documents only, not the filing of documents with the Commission's Docket Office.

11. Electronic Filing

Parties can find information about electronic filing of documents with the Commission at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/efile/static.htm>. Resolution ALJ-188

sets forth the interim rules for electronic filing of documents. Parties are encouraged to file electronically whenever possible as it speeds processing of filings and allows them to be posted on the Commission's website.

12. Public Advisor

Any person interested in participating in this proceeding who is unfamiliar with the Commission's procedures or who has questions about the electronic filing process should contact the Commission's Public Advisor at (866) 849-8390 or (415) 703-2074 or (866) 836-7825 (TTY-toll free), or send an e-mail to public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov.

13. Discovery

The parties are reminded to work cooperatively during discovery and to bring disputes to the assigned ALJ's attention promptly should efforts to resolve matters be unsuccessful.

Therefore, **IT IS SO RULED** that:

1. This proceeding is categorized as ratesetting.
2. Evidentiary hearings are required and will be held in San Francisco.
3. The Commission's Rules governing ex parte communications apply to this proceeding and are set forth in Rules 8.1 through 8.5.
4. The scope of this proceeding is set forth in Section 5, above.
5. Administrative Law Judge DeAngelis is designated as the Presiding Officer in this proceeding.

6. The schedule for the public participation hearings is set forth in Section 7, above.

7. The schedule for this proceeding is set forth in Section 8, above.

Dated March 30, 2007, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ DIAN M. GRUENEICH
Dian M. Grueneich
Assigned Commissioner

/s/ REGINA DEANGELIS
Regina DeAngelis
Administrative Law Judge

INFORMATION REGARDING SERVICE

I have provided notification of filing to the electronic mail addresses on the attached service list.

Upon confirmation of this document's acceptance for filing, I will cause a Notice of Availability of the filed document to be served upon the service list to this proceeding by U.S. mail. The service list I will use to serve the Notice of Availability of the filed document is current as of today's date.

Dated March 30, 2007, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ TERESITA C. GALLARDO
Teresita C. Gallardo

***** SERVICE LIST *****
Last Update on 09-MAR-2007 by: SMJ
A0701009 LIST
A0701010;A0701011;A0701012;A0701013;A0701014;A0701015

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